



FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL
UNITED CHURCH

FAMily News

Fifth Ave Memorial United Church
476, 4 St. SE
Medicine Hat, AB T1A 0K6
Office: 403 526 2237
www.famunitedchurch.ca
office@famunitedchurch.ca

It's November already! I can't believe how well everything is going! Still! We have so many wonderful and willing people who contribute to keeping our church working. Sunday by Sunday, and day by day during the week. Many people are helping to make things happen by leading events, and many people are helping to make things happen simply by continuing to participate in the events. The knitting group continues, only because people keep coming and participating. Bible study? Same - leaders and participants are all ordinary people with no extraordinary qualifications. Handbells? Choir? Sunday services? If people quit coming on Sunday mornings, where would we be? I am so incredibly grateful for every one of you who stays faithful and supportive of our FAM family in so many ways.

Those folks who are leading things, especially the behind the scenes work, might be able to use a little extra help. Are you interested in learning to run sound or projection on Sunday mornings. Are you good at organising and filing? Maybe you can help out with some of the office tasks. Would you be good at answering the phones and taking messages and simply greeting folks who come in? Piehl could sure use you for that while she gets some other jobs done. Could you help assemble food packs for people coming in needing food support? What if you just have some time Tuesday morning (or any other time) but don't know exactly what you could do? Wow, just let someone know. Piehl, Joanne, Brenda, Geoff, or any other member of the Board... We will be so glad to help connect you with someone who can use an extra hand.

We will soon be entering the extra-busy Christmas season. There have always been so many wonderful ways to experience Advent and Christmas, and this year will be no different. Stay tuned and be prepared to enjoy the kids, the choir, the music, the decorations, the candlelight, and all of the things that make it so special!

Happy November everyone!

Geoff
FAM Board Chair

Almost here –

Oct 30 FAM Halloween candy

Nov 1 Peace United Irvine, Beef supper

Men's Luncheon on

November 12, 11.30

Medicine Hat Golf Course

RSVP to Gary at 587 936 1430

All guys welcome

No lunches
in December

Ladies' Luncheon

November 19, 11.30

I-Hop

RSVP to Launa 403 502 3419

All ladies welcome

Hats off to Sharon and her team
for a terrific and delicious
turkey supper - \$5,553 raised!



See pictures



Busy Nov/Dec

Gifts and Goodies,

Concerts, Suppers,

Breakfast with Santa

Reverse Advent Calendar



FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH

Gifts n Goodies Market

November 7th | 10 AM-3 PM

✦ Mini Trade Fair ✦

Soup & Bun, Pie & Coffee

available to purchase

Bake Table • Silent Auction • and more!

Admission: \$2 per person

476 4th Street SE,

Medicine Hat

403-526-2237

office@famunitedchurch.ca

Creating, Connecting, Caring

**Gifts n Goodies Christmas Market, Nov
7th FAM needs help and donations:**

to make FAM Soup and make pies,
to provide baking for the bake table
to donate new Silent Auction Items
to donate small items for the White
Elephant Table.

We need volunteers

to sell and take tickets at the door

to work the FAM Bake Table

to help Pat Ward with the White

Elephant Table

to sit at the FAM table

to help with lunch: in the kitchen, to
serve, clear tables, clean up.

Sign up sheets are up on the bulletin board
or call the office at [403-526-2237](tel:403-526-2237) or email
office@famunitedchurch.ca.

Mini trade fair
SOLD OUT

Thank you decorators, for a beautiful Thanksgiving display



Thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered and attended the turkey supper – well done!





SOCK IT TO THE STAFF
NOVEMBER 29
 DURING CHURCH SERVICE

Bring **new** mitts, toques
 and **SOCKS!**

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE SPLIT BETWEEN:

- THE SALVATION ARMY RESOURCE CENTER
- FAM/SA CHRISTMAS TURKEY DINNER
- THE MUSTARD SEED

Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church
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Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church
 in conjunction with THE SALVATION ARMY

TURKEY SUPPER
 for Salvation Army Guests

Friday, December 18th

Serving approximately
200 PEOPLE

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The sign up sheets are on the bulletin board going into Wesley Hall.

YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED



NEED HELP

Every Thursday starting on Oct 1st to Dec 3, we are providing lunch for Learn. Piehl needs help with supplying lunch and helping serve.

Please sign up on the bulletin Board if you can assist.

FIFTH AVENUE MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH
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FundScrip™

FAM is holding a major fundraiser for selling gift Cards with Fundscrip. If you buy cards for Christmas presents, or to buy your Christmas goodies, please consider getting your cards from church. You are only charged the amount of the card you are buying. Deadline for ordering your cards is Nov 20th in the office or see Piehl.

FAM membership number 2501
 at any South Country Co-op location



Triangle Rewards
 Rewarding Real Life

Consider giving FAM your **Canadian Tire dollars** by using the **church phone number (403-526-2237)**



Carolfest

November 29th
at 7 pm
476 4 Street SE

Hosted by
Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church
&
The Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-Day Saints

Free Admission

Irvine Peace United Church

Annual Fall Community Supper

Roast Beef Dinner



November 1, 2026 at 5:00 PM
New Horizons Hall,
South Railway Avenue, Irvine, AB

Adults: \$25 | Children 6-12 years: \$12 |
Children under 6: Free

Call or text 403-502-9413
for tickets or information

Breakfast with Santa

Volunteers needed ahead of time to set up, decorate and fill goodie bags.

On the day we need pancake flippers, servers and a clean up crew.

Donations welcomed of pancake mix (regular and GF), syrup, cans of whipped cream.



The United Church of Canada
Bold Faith. Deep Spirituality.
A Just World for All.

2027 Calendar

The United Church of Canada 2027 Calendar features beautiful photography and the important dates that matter to our church community.

A wonderful calendar for your home, office or as a gift!

Calendars are \$11 each
including shipping!

Calendars are \$11 each
including shipping!

**DEADLINE TO ORDER
NOVEMBER 16th**

To order your calendar, please:
Call Piehl at 403-526-2237
Email office@famunitedchurch.ca
Or stop by the office to order your calendar.

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Breakfast With Santa

Dec 5th

Doors open at 9 am	Breakfast at 9:15 am sharp.	Family of 4 \$30	Singles \$8
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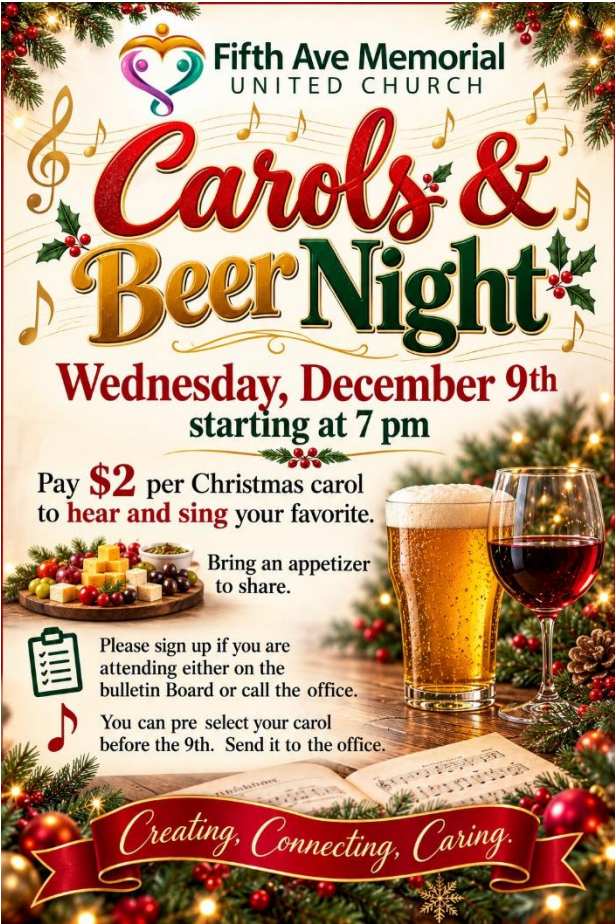
Includes 1 digital photo.

Pancakes and sausages for breakfast.

Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Call 403-526-2237 or email office@famunitedchurch.ca to reserve your ticket.

Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church
476 4th Street SE
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**Fifth Ave Memorial
UNITED CHURCH**

Carols & Beer Night

**Wednesday, December 9th
starting at 7 pm**

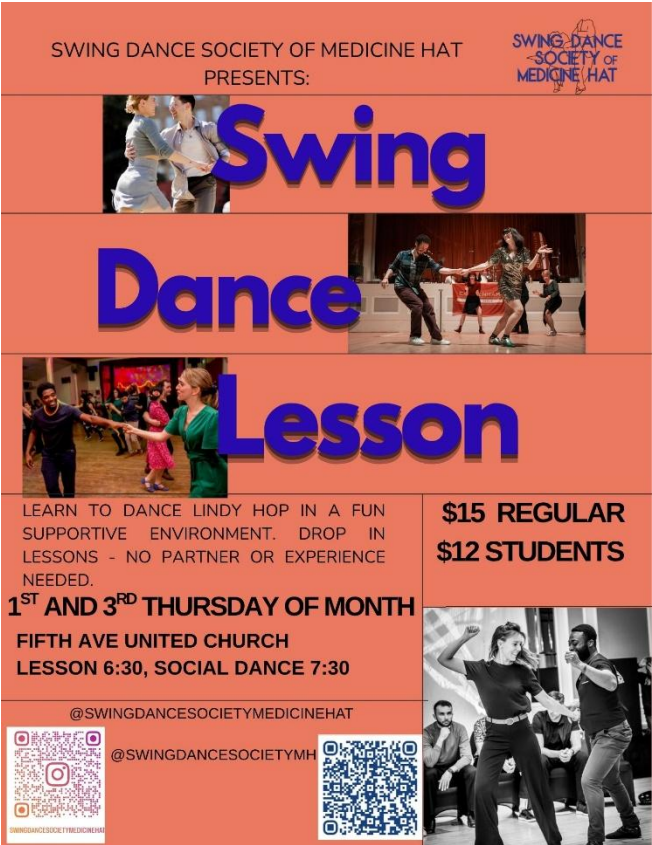
Pay **\$2** per Christmas carol
to **hear and sing** your favorite.

Bring an appetizer
to share.

Please sign up if you are
attending either on the
bulletin Board or call the office.

You can pre select your carol
before the 9th. Send it to the office.

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SWING DANCE SOCIETY OF MEDICINE HAT
PRESENTS:

Swing Dance Lesson

LEARN TO DANCE LINDY HOP IN A FUN
SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT. DROP IN
LESSONS - NO PARTNER OR EXPERIENCE
NEEDED.

1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY OF MONTH
FIFTH AVE UNITED CHURCH
LESSON 6:30, SOCIAL DANCE 7:30

@SWINGDANCESOCIETYMEDICINEHAT

@SWINGDANCESOCIETYMH

**\$15 REGULAR
\$12 STUDENTS**



Christmas Lights tour Dec 11th

**Join the FAMiLy for a shuttle tour of
the Medicine Hat Christmas lights.**

Cost is \$13 per person.

**Book early – only 24 seats
available.**



PEO Chapter J - "Tart and Soul"
Baking Competition & sale:
A butter tart contest held during
Midnight Madness.

**Nov 20th 6pm at Note Comfort Food &
Drink.** Categories are Traditional, Twist
on Tradition and Gluten free

We have a mystery on our hands. The Guest book and stand
are still missing from the Sanctuary. If you moved them,
please let the office know where they are

????????????????



Drainage Rehabilitation Project Update

The majority of the exterior work on the DRP has been completed.

All eavestroughs, flashings, and drainpipes have been upgraded and connected to underground or existing lines. The damaged brickwork belowground on the NE abutment has been repaired and protected. Heat trace has been wired into the NW tower downspout to prevent ice blockages. The passive vents have been installed in the sanctuary roof. The missing asphalt in the parking lot will be replaced soon.

The bulk of the outstanding work involves the exhaust fans in the attic. Logistics for making the workspace safe inside the attic have pushed the expected cost outside of our original budget. The engineer is preparing redesigns for the Board to consider.

Stephanie Lindstedt

FAM Property Steward

Third Quarter Financial Report

At the end of September, Operational Revenue was about \$7,500 over budget while donations to Special Projects (Roof & amp; Drainage) were almost \$3000 over budget figures. Strong support to our Benevolent Fund was three times the budget figure at over \$9600, and we were right on target with our donations to Mission and Service at just over \$10,000.

We fell short in terms of Committee revenue by \$3000, but additional fund-raising, including the Fall Turkey supper, will boost this figure. Overall, Total Revenue was \$12,000 over budget.

On the expense side of the equation, Operational Expense remains high at about \$13,000 over budget, but Committee expenses were under budget by \$4,500. Special Projects (Roof and Drainage) costs were expected to be in the order of \$75,000 but the work has not advanced as quickly as expected, so only \$6,300 has been spent, as of the end of September.

It should be noted that our Benevolent Fund expenses reached \$15,000 by September 30, and the demand continues, far exceeding the additional funding the Board approved recently (\$2000 monthly limit was reached by mid-month in October. Total Expense of \$281,000 was considerably less than the budget figure of \$330,000, which meant the actual deficit was (only?) \$80,400, well below the budgeted deficit of \$142,000.

Steve Welling, Treasurer



Beyond the Referendum: Our Faithful Work Continues

Dear friends,

As we reflect on the results of the referendum in Alberta, I suspect many of us are holding a mixture of emotions.

There is relief and gratitude that Albertans have voted by a significant majority not to pursue further conversations about separation from Canada. At a time when there is so much division and uncertainty in our world, this is welcome news. **At the same time, there is deep concern about the results of the other referendum questions and what they may mean for the people and communities affected.** For some, these results will bring fear and uncertainty about the future. It is possible to feel both relief and sorrow, gratitude and concern. We don't need to resolve those feelings today.

As people of faith, we are called to love our neighbours, to stand alongside those who are vulnerable, and to seek justice. Our United Church has a long history of faithful public witness, and that calling remains as important today as ever.

I am mindful that within our own communities of faith, people will have approached these questions from different perspectives. We are not all of one mind, but we are called to remain in relationship, to listen with respect, and to remember the humanity of those with whom we disagree. That does not mean setting aside our convictions, but allowing our faith to shape how we engage with one another and with the world.

I want to express my particular gratitude to Chris Mah Poy and the many others who have offered leadership throughout this referendum process, especially those who worked to develop the Region's toolkit resource.

I am also thankful for the many community of faith leaders - both lay and ministry personnel -- that chose to engage thoughtfully and faithfully with these important questions. This has been an important expression of the church's commitment to informed and faithful public witness.

In the days ahead, I encourage you to reach out to those who may be feeling particularly vulnerable, to offer care and reassurance, and to continue building communities where all are welcomed and valued.

The prophet Micah reminds us of what God requires of us: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8). These words seem important in this moment. We do not know all that the future will hold, but we know that God is present with us, calling us to live out our faith with courage, compassion, and love.

May we continue to be the church that our communities and our world need us to be.

With gratitude for your faithful witness,

Treena Duncan (she/her)
Executive Minister, Chinook Winds & Pacific Mountain Regions

On Sunday, November 22, 2026, Kendra Koble will deliver the sermon. Kendra represents FAM on the Medicine Hat Ecumenical Campus Ministry Board, which supports a full-time chaplain at Medicine Hat College.

Kendra will share how Chaplain George Koopmans and the Campus Ministry support students, staff, and faculty.

The Medicine Hat Ecumenical Campus Ministry is a non-profit organization funded by donations and grants. If you would like to support this ministry, donations may be made during the offering on November 22 by:

- Cheque payable to: *Medicine Hat Ecumenical Campus Ministry*
- E-transfer to: MHEcumenicalCampusMinistry@gmail.com
- A marked donation envelope available that day

Tax receipts will be issued when a name and mailing address are provided.

Thank you for your support, and we hope you enjoy the sermon.

FAM Office hours

Monday to Thursday

11am to 1pm

Closed Nov 11 Remembrance Day

**Sunday service leaders,
helpers & Sacred Service
teams. Great job and
huge thank you!**

**Reverse Advent Calendar on calendar page
27 days of giving**

Add one item to your giving box each day. Read the scripture and share kindness

Bring your box to the wagon at FAM

Want to keep up on FAM news? Join our Facebook page Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church

Miss a FAM service? Recordings of readings, messages and prayers are available on the FAM website thanks to David Gue. Go to the Home Page and click on the blue box on the left "Audio Service Recording".

Sacred Service Teams

November – team leads	Terry Lou and Art		December – team leads	Cheryl & Miles
Dietrich	Pat		Dickie	Judy
John	John		Britt	Mary Ann
Moston	Bob		Adesanba	Esther
Gue	David & Martha		Kirkham	Della
Watson	Launa & Garry		Bjarnason	Sam
McLeod	Sheila & Grant		Simpson	Bonnie
Westgarth	Robyn & Megan		Thorson	Meaghan
			Levesque	Lisa
			Duguid-Grooters	Cassandra, Adelayo & Adekola

FAMily Calendar

Nov 1st	Peace United, Irvine, Beef Supper	5pm	New Horizons Hall, Irvine
Nov 7th	Gifts & Goodies	10am–3pm	Contact Piehl to volunteer & bring donations to FAM
Nov 11th	Office closed Remembrance Day		
Nov 12th	Men's luncheon Medicine Hat Golf Course	11.30am	RSVP Gary 587 936 1430
Nov 16th	2027 Church calendars		Last day to order
Nov 19th	Ladies luncheon I-Hop	11.30am	RSVP Launa 403 502 3419
Nov 20th	PEO Butter Tart Competition & Sale	6pm	Midnight Madness- At Note: Comfort Food & Drink
Nov 22nd	Sunday School Rehearsal		
Nov 26th	Decorate the Sanctuary		FAM
Nov 29th	Sock it to the Staff	10am	Bring new socks, hats etc
Nov 29th	Carolfest – free admission	7pm	FAM
Dec 2nd	M H Girls Choir Concert		FAM
Dec 5th	Breakfast with Santa	9.15am	FAM – reserve your tickets
Dec 7th	Carols & Beer Night \$2 to sing your favourite carol	7pm	FAM Bring appetiser to share
Dec 11th	Medicine Hat Trolley Christmas Lights tour \$13 per person	6pm	Book with the office right away, only 24 seats
Dec 18th	Turkey supper for Salvation Army guests		Sign up sheet on bulletin board
Dec 29th	Ugly Christmas Sweater contest and potluck	10am	FAM

Regular activities

Sundays	Services & Sunday School fellowship and goodies	FAM 10am
Mondays	Morning Coffee 10am	FAM Memorial Salem Room (bring your own coffee)
Wednesdays	Bible Study 10am	Chinook Village
Wednesdays	Prayer Shawl Crafters 1-3pm	FAM Memorial Salem Room
Wednesdays	Hand bells 1.15pm	Wesley Hall
Thursdays	Choir Practice 7pm	
2 nd Thursday of each month	Men's Luncheon 11.30am	Gary 587 936 1430
3 rd Wednesday of each month	Funscrip orders submitted	Order at FAM office
3 rd Thursday of each month	Ladies Luncheon 11.30am	Launa 403 502 3419



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR 2026

Fifth Avenue Memorial United Church • 27 Days of Giving

Add one item to your giving box each day. Read the scripture and share kindness.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Nov 29 Canned Chicken or Ham Isaiah 58:10	Nov 30 Pasta Matthew 25:35	Dec 1 Pasta sauce Proverbs 19:17	Dec 2 Canned vegetables Hebrews 13:16	Dec 3 Canned fruit Psalm 112:9	Dec 4 Rice Luke 3:11	Dec 5 Oatmeal Romans 12:13
Dec 6 Peanut butter 1 John 3:17	Dec 7 Jam Galatians 6:2	Dec 8 Cereal Matthew 5:16	Dec 9 Crackers Proverbs 22:9	Dec 10 Canned beans Micah 6:8	Dec 11 Tuna or salmon James 2:15-16	Dec 12 Granola bars Philippians 2:4
Dec 13 Tea or coffee 1 Peter 4:10	Dec 14 Toothbrush and Toothpaste Ephesians 4:32	Dec 15 Juice Boxes Colossians 3:12	Dec 16 Soap John 13:34	Dec 17 Snack-Size Nuts Romans 15:1	Dec 18 Sidekicks 1 Thess. 5:11	Dec 19 Ramen Noodles Isaiah 58:7
Dec 20 Macaroni Matthew 25:40	Dec 21 Apple Sauce Proverbs 31:20	Dec 22 Baked Beans 2 Corinthians 1:4	Dec 23 Canned Stew Mark 10:14	Dec 24 Cash Donation to Benevolent Fund 2 Corinthians 9:7	Dec 25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	

Please donate unopened, non-expired items.
Bring your items to the church and place them in the wagon.

Creating, Connecting, Caring